



Native American dancers performed for ISM workshop participants during the opening reception, which celebrated Idaho heritage, history and culture.

Idaho's past highlighted at ISM reception

by John Walsh, *INL Communications*

DOE-Idaho Manager Elizabeth Sellers wanted the Integrated Safety Management Workshop Reception to be extraordinary -- something memorable.

Katie Dimick, of INL's Communications and Public Affairs Protocol Office, was tasked with orchestrating the "extraordinary" reception.

"As Leanne Medema, INL's protocol officer, and I discussed ideas for the reception, we realized that Idaho has a wonderful history and that it is connected with Idaho National Laboratory -- prehistoric, Native American, earlier settlers heritage. And we have wonderful local artists, the Art Museum of Eastern Idaho, family heritages and the INL Cultural Resources organization that have captured much of this history in paintings, sculptures, handcrafts and artifacts. It just seemed this was an opportunity to use these resources to give reception attendees the chance to see our rich and colorful history," Dimick said.

Sponsored by Battelle, the reception included displays of paintings contributed by the Art Museum of Eastern Idaho and local artists Marilyn Hoff Hansen and Roy Reynolds; Shoshone-Bannock beadwork from the family collection of Dani Barron; a medallion quilt made by Jan Paniogue; cowboy memorabilia from Edith and Alexa Stanger of the Double Arrow Ranch; pioneer artifacts and historical writings provided through Idaho National Laboratory Cultural Resources; and a presentation by Native American dancers Jack and Ramon Barton of the Montana Clay People and Spirit Horse (drummer).

In addition, food at the reception continued the historical theme that included buffalo moon meatballs, smoked salmon canapés and Lakota corn salad.

The lobby and main conference room of the Engineering Research Office Building were transformed into a cultural center for the reception, and the displays remained the following day so INL employees could enjoy them.

The concept of the theme was explained by INL Cultural Resources:

"We recognize Native Americans as the first environmentalists: they traveled lightly on the land, hunting and gathering for subsistence, leaving hardly a trace they had been there at all. This is especially true of the Native Americans who traversed through the INL area on their way to locales near Yellowstone, Jackson Hole, Salmon and elsewhere in the West. The artifacts they left behind are valuable in determining how humans used and adapted to this landscape through time and their relationship with the natural resources that existed here.

"More recently, the 'footprint' between humans and nature changed. While resources were always there to use, these later westward-moving people left a large footprint on INL lands with remnants of homesteads, irrigation canals, stage stops and trails. Today, DOE is cognizant of its responsibilities as a federal agency to preserve all of these remnants of the past in balance with its need to clean up waste left by its footprint. Today, we are aware of the need to create sustainable energy sources with as little impact on the environment as possible. Environmental stewardship is not just a phrase, but a value that underpins all of our activities."

-INL-

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From left: Vincent Joe (Navajo), Jack Barton (Montana White Clay People, Nakoda), Sally Fitzgerald (Arapaho, North Cheyenne) and Ramon Barton.